

# DOE Programs for Improving the Nuclear Engineering Education Infrastructure

*“Universities, Industry and Government: Partners for the Future of Nuclear Engineering and Technology”*

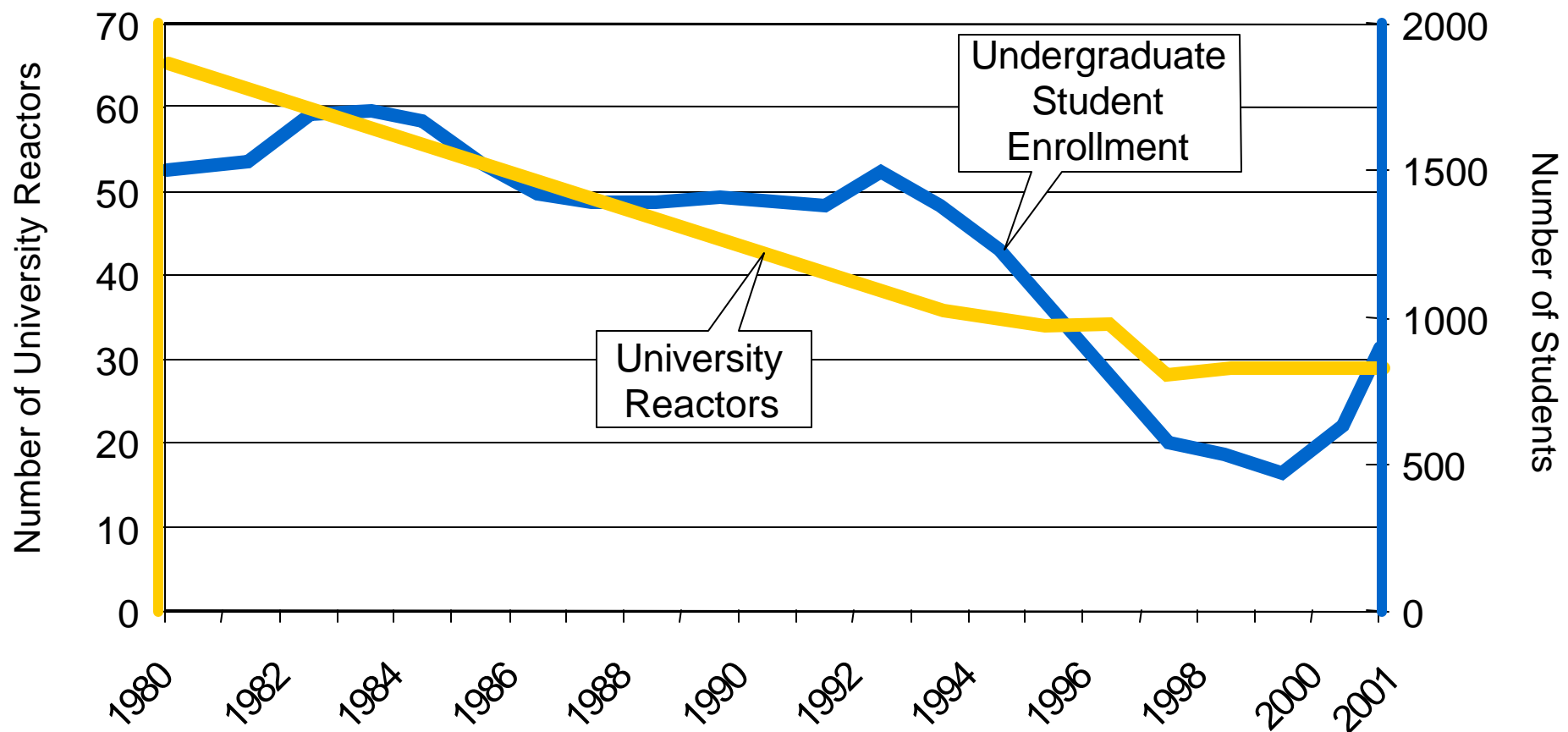


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**Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology**  
**U.S. Department of Energy**

October 28, 2002

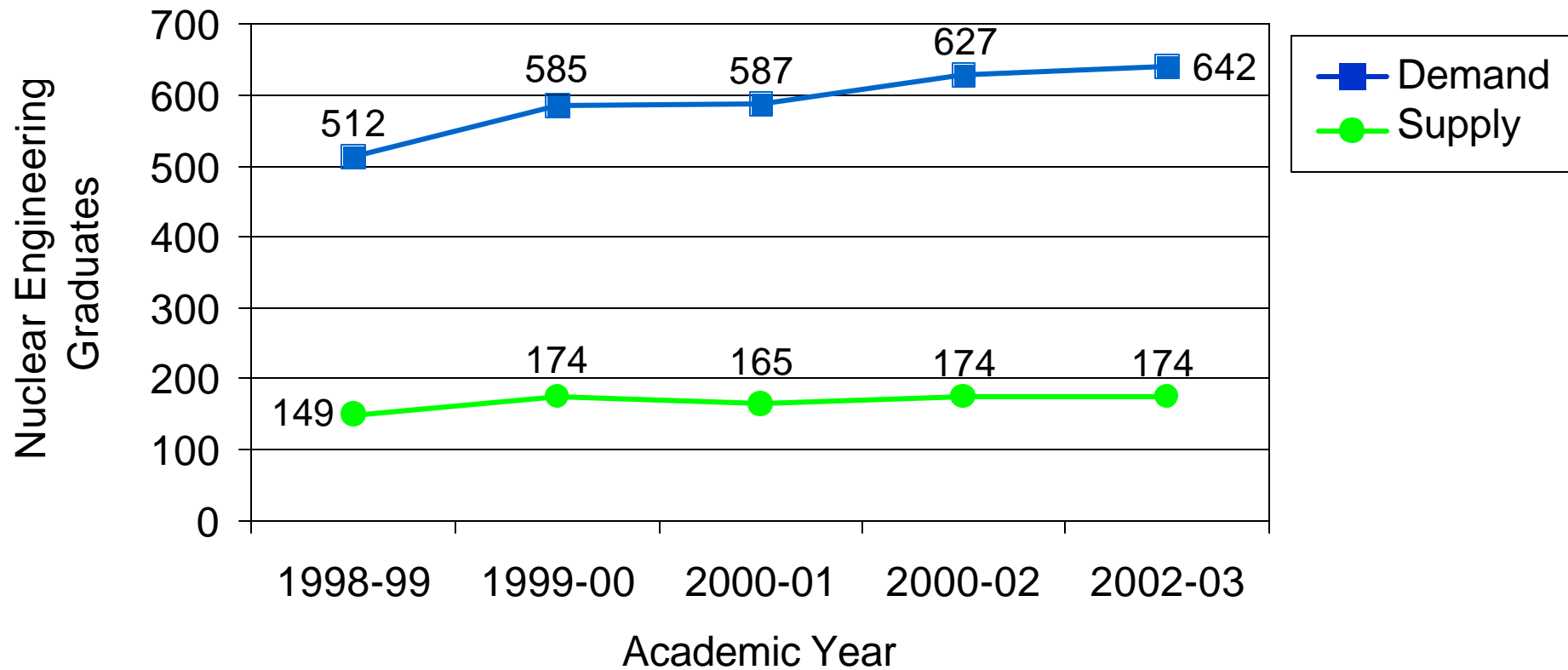


# Trends in Enrollments and University Reactors





# NEDHO Projection of Shortage in Nuclear Engineering Graduates (BS and MS)



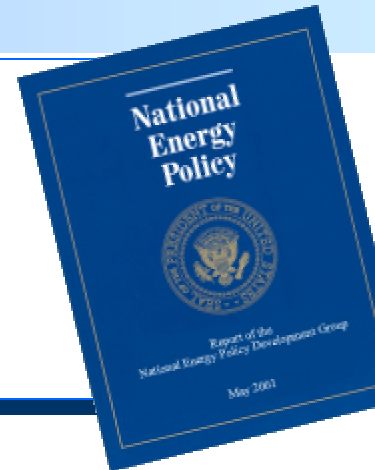


## Recent Reports Focusing on Manpower and Infrastructure Concerns

- ? **“Nuclear Education and Training: Cause for Concern” (OECD, 2000)**
- ? **“Manpower Supply and Demand in the Nuclear Industry” (NEDHO, 2000)**
- ? **“The Future of Nuclear Engineering Programs and University Research and training Reactors” (NERAC, 2000)**
- ? **“Report of the University Research Reactor Task Force” (NERAC, 2000)**
- ? **“NEI Recruiting and Staffing Task Force” (Nuclear Energy Institute)**



# The U.S. *National Energy Policy* and Nuclear Power



**“The NEPD Group recommends that the President support the expansion of nuclear energy in the United States as a major component of our national energy policy.”**

*Report of the National Energy Policy Development Group, May 2001*



***Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant:***

*The first U.S. plant to receive an extended operating license.*

## NEP Nuclear Energy Recommendations:

- Provide a deep geological repository
- Extend Price-Anderson liability coverage
- Support uprating and relicensing existing nuclear power plants
- Support licensing new nuclear reactors
- Develop advanced nuclear fuel cycles and next generation technologies
- Consider advanced reprocessing and fuel treatment technologies



# University Nuclear Science and Reactor Support

## ? The “University” Program has nine distinct activities:

- ? Innovations in Nuclear Infrastructure and Education
- ? Nuclear Engineering Education Research
- ? Matching Grants
- ? Reactor Sharing
- ? Fellowships and Scholarships
- ? University Reactor Instrumentation
- ? Fresh Fuel/Spent Fuel Services
- ? Radiochemistry
- ? Nuclear Engineering Education Opportunities

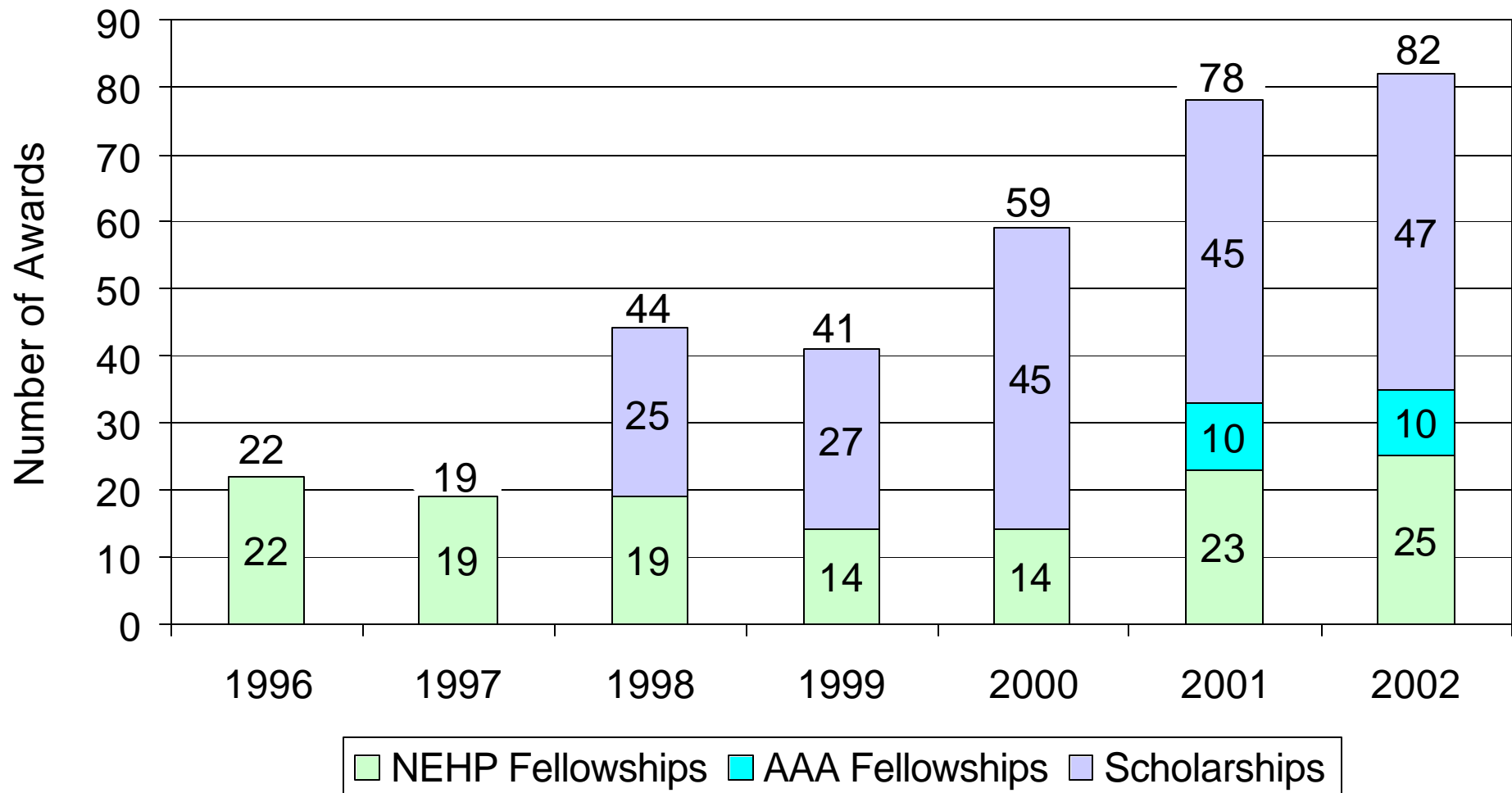


## Other DOE Programs Supporting Nuclear Education

- ? **Nuclear Energy Plant Optimization (NEPO) -- R&D program in partnership with nuclear industry to ensure the viability of the Nation's existing power plants**
  - ? NEPO makes R&D awards to minority educational institutions
- ? **Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (NERI) -- new and innovative nuclear science and engineering R&D**
  - ? NERI involves students in R&D at universities, national laboratories and industry.
- ? **Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative -- research into the transmutation of spent nuclear fuel**
  - ? Supports advanced R&D at UNLV
  - ? Sponsors a fellowship program in transmutation-related disciplines



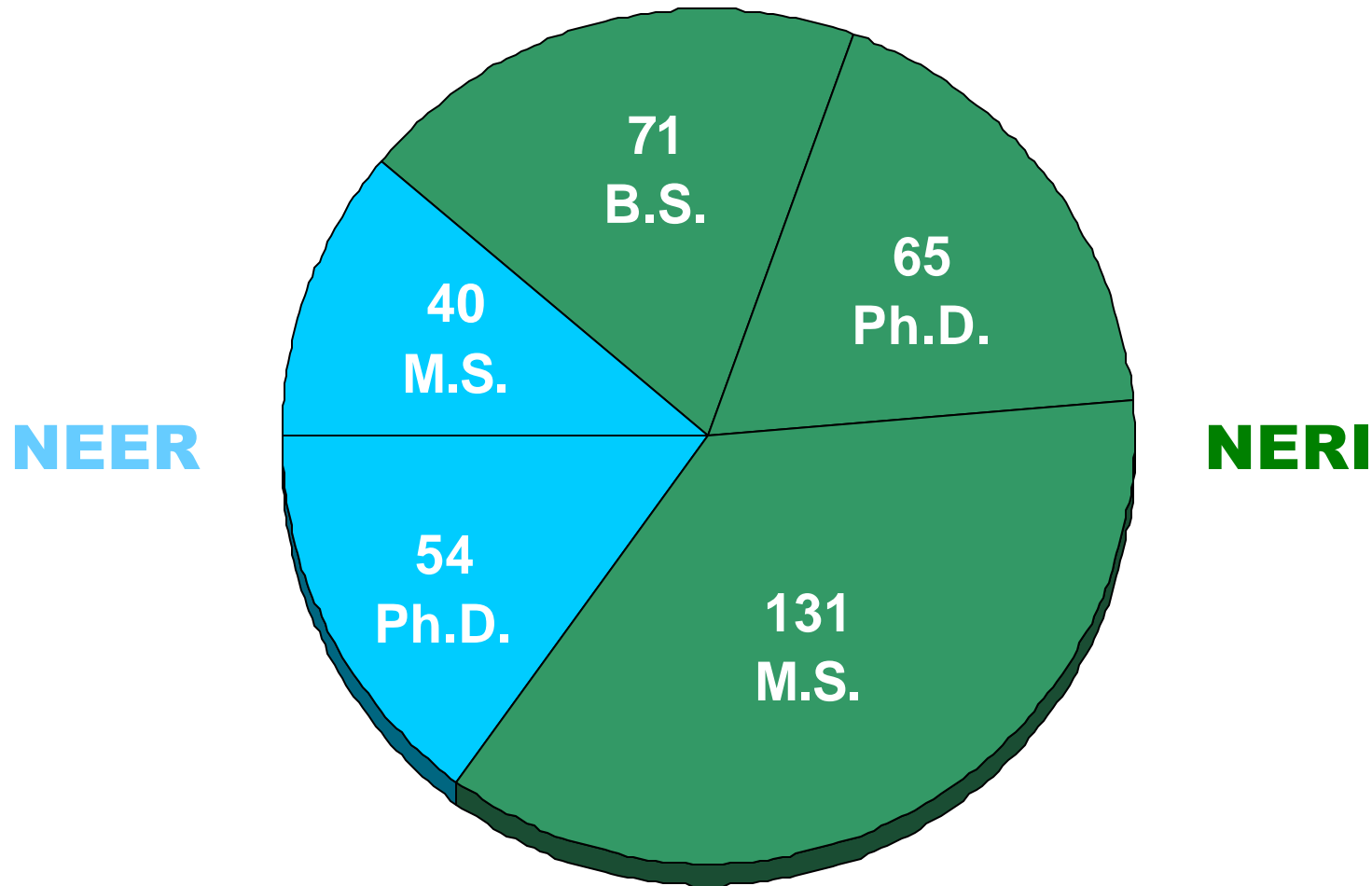
# Fellowships and Scholarships







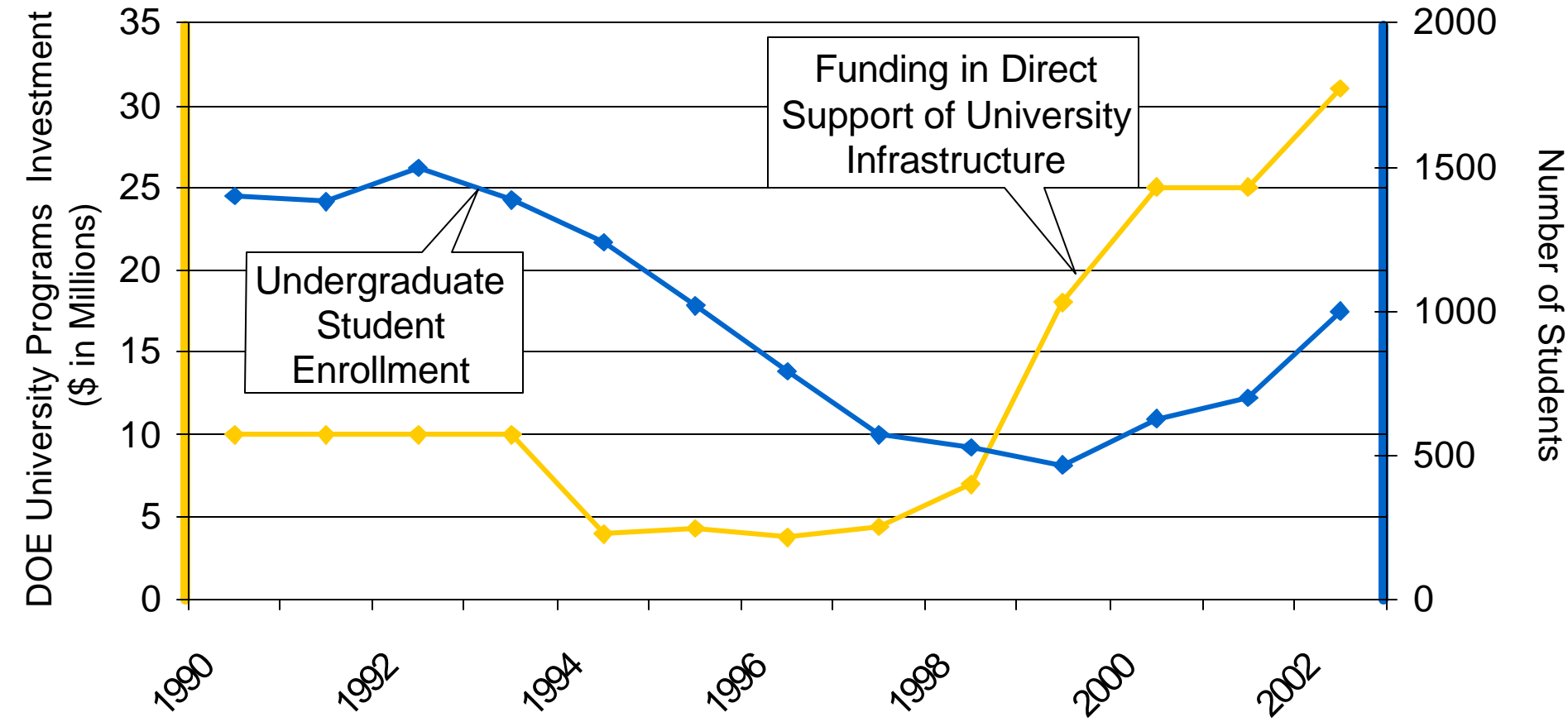
# Student Involvement in NEER/NERI Research 1999-2001



**Total over 3 years: 361**



# Trends In Enrollments Versus DOE University Program Investment





# Innovations In Nuclear Infrastructure And Education (INIE)

**\$5.5 million awarded to:**

? ***Western Nuclear Science Alliance (\$1.2M)***

? Oregon State, California-Davis, California-Berkeley, Washington State, Idaho State

? ***BIG-10 Consortium (\$1.97M)***

? Penn State, Wisconsin, Purdue, Illinois

? ***MIT/Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center (\$1.1M)***

? ***Southwest Consortium (\$1.05M)***

? Texas A&M, Texas-Austin, New Mexico

**Plan 1-3 additional INIE's**

? ***Missouri, Michigan, North Carolina State***



# New Nuclear Engineering Programs

## Two new nuclear engineering programs initiated in 2002

### ? ***South Carolina State -- Orangeburg, South Carolina***

- ? Only HBCU to offer a degree in nuclear engineering (undergraduate)

### ? ***University of South Carolina***

- ? Graduate program in nuclear engineering

### ? **Both programs recently approved by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education**

**More to come**



## DOE's Expanding Nuclear Educational Initiatives

- ? Expand the International Student Exchange Program beyond the current nations (France, Germany and Japan) to Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Russia**
- ? Increase University partnerships**
  - ? 5 currently in place
  - ? Plan to add 3 additional, including University of Missouri and Polytechnical University of Puerto Rico
- ? Develop faculty exchanges between U.S. nuclear engineering universities and their international counterparts**



# Nuclear Power Engineering Curriculum Task Force

- ? Nuclear engineering departments may not be producing engineers with training optimal to the needs of industry
- ? The Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee (NERAC) has launched a task force headed by Professor Andrew Klein of Oregon State to examine this issue
- ? If found to have merit, the Task Force will work with expert consultants to outline an optimal curriculum as a model for use by university nuclear engineering departments
- ? Before products are finalized, NERAC will review the draft conclusions with the broader nuclear industry and university community



# The Future . . .

? . . . is bright

? More work needs to be done -- by Government, Industry, and Academia

? Building new plants is key to maintaining a viable educational infrastructure

? DOE is here to help



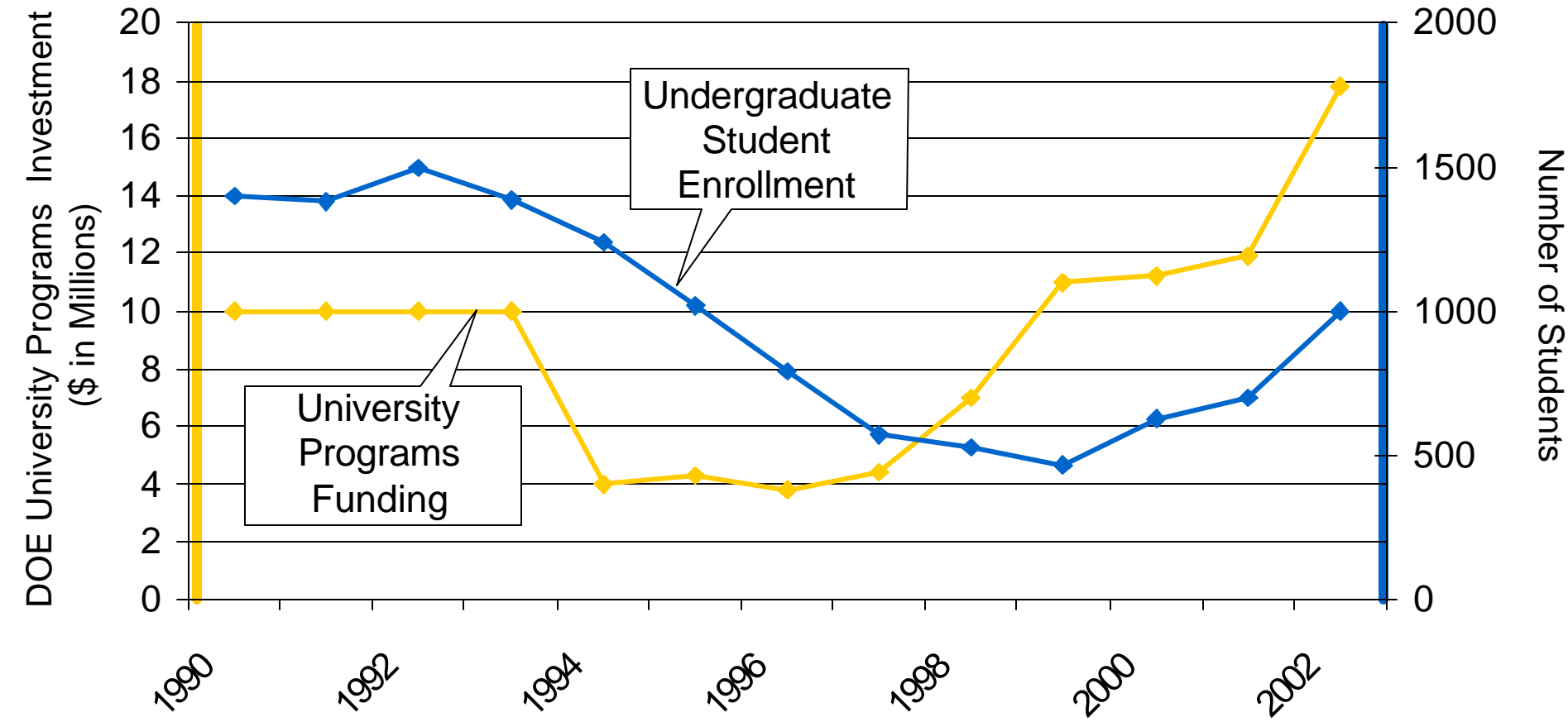
**[www.nuclear.gov](http://www.nuclear.gov)**



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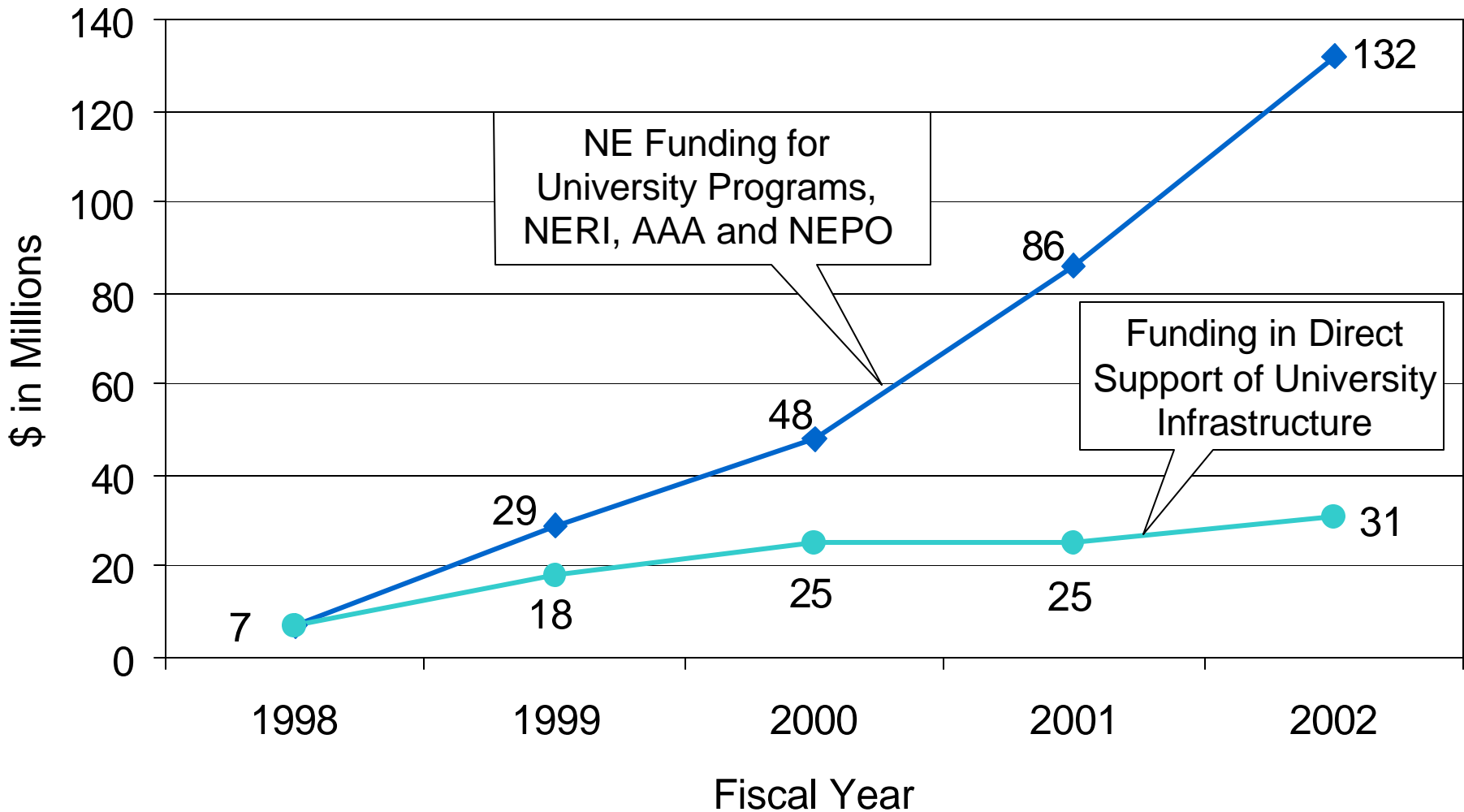


# Trends In Enrollments Versus DOE University Program Investment





# DOE/NE Programs Supporting the Nuclear Infrastructure



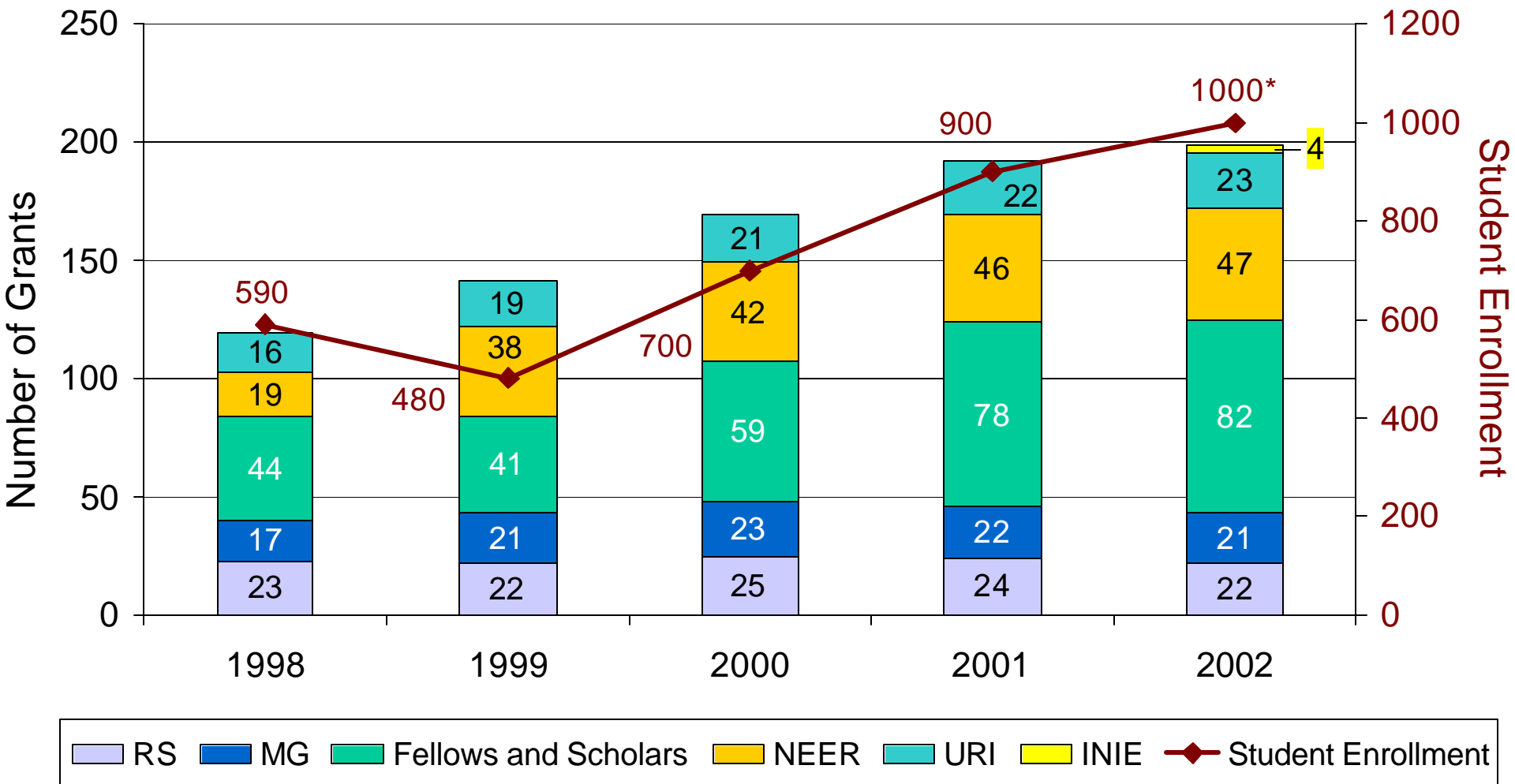


# Federal Government Need for Nuclear Engineers

- ? **Energy**
- ? **Safety**
- ? **Environment**
- ? **Space Exploration**
- ? **Isotopes**
- ? **Radiochemistry**
- ? **Defense**
- ? **Radiological Protection/Evaluation**
- ? **Medical**
- ? **Nonproliferation**



# University Program Grants By Year



\*Estimated



# Student Involvement In NEER/NERI Research

